

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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BY CABLE

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The following is a summary of Soviet and KVP military activities observed prior to 19 August 1954:

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A. Soviet Troop Movements and Exercises

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1. First Guards Mechanized Army:

- a. 8th Guards Mechanized Division: Elements of the 21st Guards Mechanized Regiment were shipped from Grinma to Weisswasser on 6 August and from there, on 12 August, to Koenigsbrueck. Elements of the 350th Howitzer Regiment were at the Weisswasser training grounds between 6 and 11 August. On 10 August, units of the 19th Guards Mechanized Regiment were entrained at Makranstadt for an unknown destination.
- b. 9th Tank Division: A tank unit from Zeithain was located in the South Sector of Letzling Heath until 29 July. Intensive troop exchange movements between the posts of the division and Camp Zeithain continued until 16 August.

2. Second Guards Mechanized Army:

- a. 2nd Light Artillery Brigade: About 50 percent of the brigade left Doeberitz on 15 and 16 August. On 20 August, a column composed of 80 to 100 trucks and 12 x 100 mm AT guns passed through Neuengruenfeld en-route toward Neuruppin.
- b. 1st Mechanized Division: Exercises at reinforced regimental level were conducted at the Doeberitz troop-training grounds between 9 and 11 August. Tank units were shipped from Doeberitz to Neustrelitz on 15, 16 and 18 August. The first elements returned on 19 August.

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- c. 9th Tank Division: Artillery and tank units conducted small-scale exercises near their posts between 6 and 14 August.
- d. 12th Guards Tank Division: Major elements of the division left Neuruppin for the East and Southeast Sectors of the Wittstock troop-training grounds on 10 August.

3. Third Guards Mechanized Army:

- a. Army Units: The 35th Engineer Regiment was still at the Schumke Lake on 15 August. One unit with "amphibious tanks" was located on Hege Lake. A unit with 3-axle amphibious vehicles left Hege Lake on the evenings of 14 and 15 August. The 91st Guards RL Regiment was still training near its post in Luckenwalde prior to 15 August.
- b. 6th Guards Tank Division: The bulk of the division was in Camp Werder-Markendorf on 10 August. Only rear details were stationed in Wittenberg.
- c. 7th Guards Tank Division: Major elements of the division were in the South Sector of Letzling Heath prior to 11 August.

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4. Fourth Guards Mechanized Army:

- a. 71st Light Artillery Brigade: Troops returned in one shipment from Forst Zinna to Templin on 15 August.
- b. 6th Guards Mechanized Division: Almost all of the units of the division were located in Bernau prior to 17 August. Training was conducted in the Schoenow area. On 18 August, major elements of the 68th Guards Tank Regiment went in three shipments from Berlin-Kaulsdorf to Biesenthal.
- c. 7th Guards Mechanized Division: One unit went from Frankfurt/Oder to Lieberose in one shipment on 10 August. On 13 August, the bulk of the 24th Guards Mechanized Regiment went in three or four shipments from Berlin-Schoeneweide to Lieberose. The first elements returned in one shipment on 19 August.
- d. 10th Guards Tank Division: Elements of the division engaged in an exercise in the area south and west of Rathenow on 12 August. The troops had presumably reached the training area by road; they returned by rail to Satskorn from Grosswudicke on 14 and 15 August.
- e. 25th Tank Division: The exercises of the division in the area south of Templin were still continuing on 16 August.

5. Third Shock Army:

- a. Engineer Troops held a bridge-building exercise in the Tangerhuetten-Bittkau area on 12 August. The equipment observed included eight DUKW-353-type amphibious vehicles, 14 pontoons, 22 tanks, AA guns, and eight armored personnel carriers with AA guns and AT guns.
- b. IX Rifle Corps: Elements of the 10th Guards RL Regiment went in two shipments from Guestraw to Altengrabow on 5 August. Two shipments with units of the 4th Guards Artillery Brigade were sent from Schwerin to Altengrabow on 7 August.

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- c. 19th Mechanized Division: Waldlager III of the Born troop-training grounds was occupied to capacity by elements of the division. Waldlager I was occupied by army units.
- d. 207th Rifle Division: Only rear details remained in the camp southeast of Jaevenitz on 10 August, the division apparently having left for exercises.

6. Eighth Guards Army:

- a. Army Troops: The 19th Guards Engineer Battalion returned to Weimar from Aken in two shipments on 28 July. It is believed that all engineer units of the army were withdrawn from the Aken area in late July. The tank training unit of the army returned to Gera from the South Sector of Letzling Heath on 31 July. Two shipments with elements of the 13th AAA division returned to Weimar from Wustrow on 7 August.
- b. XXIX Guards Rifle Corps: Major elements of 76th Artillery Brigade, which had been in Altengrabow until 28 July, returned to Merseburg in three shipments.
- c. XXVIII Guards Rifle Corps: The bulk of the AAA Regiment of the Corps was located in Wustrow after 18 July. Some elements of the regiment were, however, still in Rudolstadt on 12 August.

7. IV Artillery Corps: Elements of the 25th RL Brigade, which were absent from Altengrabow between 25 July and 2 August, were presumably conducting exercises at Altengrabow. Elements of the 32nd AAA Division returned in one shipment to Kuestrin from Altengrabow on 13 August. Two shipments with medium units of the division returned from Wustrow on 18 August. Elements of the 2nd Guards AAA Division returned to Rehagen from Wustrow on 10 August; other units of the division moved from Wuenasdorf to Wustrow on 14 August.

8. Army Troops of the GSFG: The bulk of the 36th Bridge-Building Regiment was still stationed in Magdeburg prior to 13 August.

B. KVP Developments

- 1. Training: An exercise held by a reinforced regiment of the Eggesin Mechanized Division in the Ueokermuende-Eggesin area was terminated on 8 August. The 2nd Mechanized Regiment of the Division was scheduled to hold a similar exercise after 15 August. Elements of the AAA Regiment of the Division were stationed at Zingst. The engineer battalion of Corps North left for exercises in the Oderbruch area near Bad Freienwalde. The bulk of the 2nd Mechanized Regiment and the motorcycle battalion of the Potsdam Mechanized Division moved to the training grounds east of Klietz between 8 and 10 August. The 3rd Mechanized Regiment departed from this training area on 10 and 11 August. Elements of the medium-tank regiment were entrained in Oranienburg on 19 August.
- 2. Inspections: A commission of the Interior Ministry and high-ranking Soviet officers held an ordnance inspection of the Mechanized Division Eggesin after 2 August. Premier Otto Grotewohl was seen enroute to the Nochten training area on 6 August.

Comment: It appears that in mid-August Soviet training was shifted to special areas for large-scale exercises above regimental level. The KVP concentrated on exercises at a reinforced battalion and regimental level. Both the Soviets and the KVP continued firing practice.

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